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OF THE SENATE.

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docket of Baltimore county court 454 cases. Such is the mass of that court's common law business, that we are assured even its present equity suits cannot be despatched unless one of the judges be allowed to be assigned for the special purpose of the equity jurisdiction. And a bill for that object has passed at the present session of the Legislature. If enquiry into the actual business of the court of Chancery, and that of other courts comparatively, illustrates that court's useful and active functions, and the eminent advantage of its position and of the Chancellor's residence, and of his undivided attention, ready to answer all claims upon it—the history of the court of Chancery in one fact, will ~~now~~ *very* cogently establish our view, and that is: That one of our early Chancellors was with the inducement of an increased salary, drawn to Annapolis for his residence by the requisition of the Legislature, (act of 1784, ch. 68) so very inconvenient and so inconsistent with the proper uses of the court was found his residence at a distance from the seat of government, and of the office of his court.

The necessity of the Chancellor having his court always open, and of his residing or being often at the place of his court, apart from the consideration of his being speaker of the house of lords, no doubt in a great measure, induced the establishment of his salary in England at a higher sum than the salary of any other judicial officer of the realm—the salary of the Chancellor being £14,000, while that of the chief justice of the Kings Bench is only £10,000. This salary of the Chancellor is exclusive, it is understood, of his compensation as speaker of the house of lords.

The extent of the business of the court of Chancery and the constant occupation of the court, notwithstanding the peculiar industry of the present Chancellor, and the business of the sixth judicial district remaining with the courts, there being still so great, while that of some other districts of the state is subject to much delay, and as is understood, has been far from being effectually subserved by the mixed jurisdiction of the county courts—all indicate the necessity, should the court of Chancery be abolished, of providing equity judges for various sections of the state, whatever title they may bear, as of district Chancellors or otherwise; it is manifest that the state will then acquire one or more Chancellors with limited jurisdiction in point of territory, in place of one single central Chancery authority embracing the whole state. Should the business of but one district, as